

sixty-seventh annual report

the new england home  
for the deaf

AGED, BLIND OR INFIRM

OFFICE OF THE HOME

154 WATER STREET, DANVERS, MASSACHUSETTS 01923



sixty-seventh annual report

the  
new england home  
for the deaf  
AGED, BLIND OR INFIRM

For the Year Ended March Thirty-First  
Nineteen Hundred and Sixty-Eight

# Organization

## OFFICERS

Stephen Phillips  
President

Mrs. William Chisholm  
Mr. Leslie M. Brown  
Vice Presidents

John S. Balfour  
Treasurer

Ruth Goodwin  
Clerk

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1939 — Stephen Phillips  
1949 — Leslie M. Brown  
1953 — Michael F. Flynn  
1953 — John S. Balfour  
1957 — Wallace C. Cook  
1957 — Dr. Marion Ropes Fielding  
1958 — Richard V. Ellery  
1958 — Reverend Bradford E. Gale  
1958 — Mrs. Lester G. Hathaway  
1960 — Mrs. Ralph C. Browne  
1960 — Oscar S. Hodgkins  
1960 — Edward A. Robinson  
1960 — Mrs. William Chisholm  
1962 — John J. Cunningham  
1963 — Mrs. Russell Dewart  
1964 — Miss Patricia A. Dow  
1964 — William H. Battersby  
1964 — John B. Newhall  
1964 — Oswald Parker, Jr.  
1965 — Dr. Richard A. LeBel  
1968 — Harry M. Lowd, III

## COMMITTEES

### *Admissions*

Mr. Brown, chairman  
Mr. Hodgkins, Mr. Ellery  
Mr. Battersby

### *Finance*

Mr. Balfour, treasurer, chairman  
Mr. Newhall, Mr. Cook

### *Home and Health*

Mr. Ellery, chairman  
Mrs. Browne, Mr. Robinson

### *Long Range Planning*

Mr. Ellery, chairman  
Dr. Fielding, Mr. Brown  
Mr. Flynn, Dr. LeBel

### *Publications*

Mr. Ellery, chairman  
Mr. Hodgkins, Miss Goodwin

### *Religious Services and Entertainment*

Mrs. Dewart, chairman  
Dr. Gale, Mrs. Hathaway  
Mr. Brown, Mr. Hodgkins  
Mr. Flynn

### *Visiting*

Mr. Cunningham, chairman  
Mrs. Dewart, Miss Dow  
Mr. Parker

## ORGANIZATION AT RIVERBANK

154 Water Street  
Danvers, Mass.  
Tel. 774-0445

Mrs. John Jackson, matron  
Dr. Charles F. Deering  
Visiting Physician

Alexander J. Swiniarski  
Superintendent of the  
Buildings and Grounds

## OFFICE OF THE HOME RIVERBANK

Ruth Goodwin  
Secretary  
Tel. 774-0445

# HELEN KELLER

Former Trustee 1880-1968

In Memoriam



"The soft hand blinds our eyes  
The other leads us safe and  
slowly  
O Love of God most wise"  
Helen Keller



Gail Chadbourne — Matron's granddaughter.



Marion Rustrom.



Marion Hugare.

# Former Officers and Trustees

Rev. Daniel Dulany Addison	1901-05	Rev. A. Z. Conrad	1907-37	Mrs. M. W. Perry	1920-28
John Dixwell, M.D.	1901-07	John L. Frisbee	1908-10	Rev. Earle A. Brooks	1921-24
Rev. S. Stanley Searing	1901-09	James T. Wetherald	1908-09	J. Daniel Nichols	1922-54
Rev. Herbert S. Johnson	1901-04	Dana J. Flanders	1908-09	John O'Rourke	1923-43
Dr. Heber Bishop	1901-08	Frank R. Sircom	1908-09	Mrs. L. C. Cross	1924-48
Lewis H. Browne	1901-04	Rev. Alexander H. Mann	1908-09	Richard M. Everett	1925-47
Edwin W. Frisbee	1901-22	Charles L. Jeffrey	1909-11	Joseph T. Tillinghast	1925-46
Albert S. Tufts	1901-19	Frank E. Smith	1909-18	Mary A. Lakeman	1926-56
Dr. H. G. Spooner	1901-02	H. Heustis Newton	1909-10	Lester G. Hathaway	1928-57
Herbert C. Deans	1901-02	Samuel P. Cannell	1909-10	Miss Mildred Kennedy	1928-35
Freeman O. Emerson	1902-08	Francis Batchelder	1909-11	Mrs. J. Frederick Hussey	1928-61
John C. Crane	1903-04	Rev. George H. Spencer	1909-11	Mrs. L. Viola Hull	1929-48
William L. Hill	1903-04	Phineas Hubbard	1909-38	Walter Newhall	1930-40
Rev. William A. Holbrook	1903-04	John B. Martin	1910-24	Damon E. Hall	1931-32
Frank B. Roberts	1903-17	William Alcott	1911-50	Charles B. Barnes	1931-60
Rev. George S. Fiske	1904-35	Miss Harriette M. Camp	1911-13	Howard N. Flanders	1933-60
John L. Harberger	1904-05	Edward A. Buss	1912-13	Rev. J. Stanley Light	1935-63
Rev. J. W. F. Barnes	1905-06	Mrs. Samuel W. Simpson	1912-13	J. Frederick Hussey	1938-54
Mrs. Margaret J. Magennis	1905-17	Rev. Ralph M. Harper	1913-15	George B. Farrington	1936-42
Mrs. Samuel Wright Simpson	1905-08	Seth J. Littlefield	1913-14	George C. Greener	1937-52
Mrs. William P. Shreve	1905-06	Alden M. Cleveland	1913-16	Dr. Alfred E. Stearns	1938-39
Mrs. Herbert S. Johnson	1905-07	Mrs. S. M. Macdonnell	1914-17	Russell T. Williams	1938-44
Mrs. Eben C. Stanwood	1905-06	Rev. A. B. Parsons	1915-16	Frank P. Fabens	1942-43
Frank W. Thayer	1905-06	Rev. Malcolm L. Taylor	1915-17	George S. Parker	1943-53
William F. Mitchell	1905-07	Rev. A. Judson Hughes	1917-21	Dexter R. Hawley	1943-61
Edgar H. Emerson	1905-06	Arthur R. Pierce	1917-18	William A. Lynch	1944-48
Rev. George J. Prescott	1906-07	Herbert R. Leisk	1918-19	William S. Nichols	1946-58
Rev. Reuben Kidner	1906-07	Rev. J. R. Farrar	1918-21	Ernest S. Dodge	1950-57
Miss Helen Keller	1907-08	Arthur L. Potter	1918-20	Ralph C. Browne	1950-60
Mrs. John Macy	1907-08	Elmer E. Pitts	1918-28	William H. Chisholm	1952-60
Clarence H. Poor	1907-09	Mrs. F. L. Bigelow	1920-36	Emily A. Goldsmith	1911-63
Mrs. J. D. Stiles	1907-09	Rev. W. W. Iliffe	1920-21	Carl T. Banks	1922-65
Miss S. O. Libby	1907-08	Isaac A. Blanchard	1920-28		

# former Officers and Trustees cont'd

## PRESIDENTS

Rev. Daniel Dulany Addison	1901-05
John Dixwell, M.D.	1905-06
Rev. George J. Prescott	1906-07
Rev. George S. Fiske	1907-08
Rev. A. Z. Conrad, D.D.	1908-37
Phineas Hubbard	1937-38
J. Frederick Hussey	1938-54
Dexter R. Hawley	1954-57
Ralph C. Browne	1957-60

## VICE-PRESIDENTS

John Dixwell, M.D.	1901-05
Freeman O. Emerson	1905-06
Rev. George S. Fiske	1906-07, 1911-35
Rev. A. Z. Conrad	1907-08
James T. Wetherald	1908-09
Francis Batchelder	1909-11
Phineas Hubbard	1927-32, 1934-37
Richard M. Everett	1932-34
William Alcott	1936-50
J. Frederick Hussey	1937-38
Joseph J. Tillinghast	1938-46
Dr. Alfred E. Stearns	1938-49
George S. Parker	1950-53
Dexter R. Hawley	1950-54
Ralph C. Browne	1954-57
Stephen Phillips	1946-60
Wallace C. Cook	1960-63
Carl T. Banks	1957-65

## SECRETARY-TREASURER

Rev. George S. Fiske	1909-10
Dr. Henry G. Spooner	1901

## SECRETARIES

Rev. S. Tanley Searing	1901-05, 1907-08
William F. Mitchell	1905-07
Miss Eva S. Foster	1908-09

## CLERKS

Miss Harriette M. Camp	1911-12
Alden M. Cleveland	1912-16
Herbert R. Leisk	1917-19
Rev. David R. MacLennan	1920-21
Miss Laura L. Leighton	1921-45
Dexter R. Hawley	1945
Miss E. Jean Harvey	1945-48
Elinor Price Ricker	1948-54

## TREASURERS

Dr. Heber Bishop	1902-08
George L. Jeffrey	1908-09
Phineas Hubbard	1909-27, 1932-33
Richard M. Everett	1927-32
Howard N. Flanders	1933-53

## AUDITORS

Mrs. J. D. Stiles	1907-09
Frank E. Smith	1909-16
Elmer E. Pitts	1917-28

## GENERAL SECRETARIES

Arthur R. Pierce	1918-22
Miss Laura L. Leighton	1922-45
Miss E. Jean Harvey	1945-48
Elinor Price Ricker	1948-54

## MANAGERS\*

John L. Harberger	1904-05
Freeman O. Emerson	1905-09
Rev. George H. Spencer	1909-11
William Alcott	1911-22
J. Daniel Nichols	1923-34

\*This office has had several titles, including that of General Manager, Managing Trustee and Superintendent.

## MATRONS

Mrs. Mary E. White	1901-03
Mrs. Frances L. Ryan	1903-13
Mrs. Maude Peart	1913-14
Mrs. Mabel A. Crockett	1914-23
Mrs. Lula T. Fuller	1923-36
Mrs. Evelyn D. Thomas	1936-37
Mrs. Myrtle Edmunds	1936-66

# Report of the Trustees and the General Secretary

The Trustees of the New England Home for the Deaf (Aged, Blind or Infirm) are pleased to present their sixty-seventh Annual Report.

Each month, except July and August, the Spokesman has gone out to keep before you a picture of the Home and its activities. Under the present editor more than 243,000 copies have been issued, and the comments have been gratifying.

As customary the Trustees have met four times, either in Boston or at the Home to deal with management, supply, the well-being of the Family and the constant demands of the state.

From the office at Riverbank have gone out some two thousand letters of business or courtesy.

The health of the family has been reasonably good, almost no illness occurring, yet we report the death from the demands of age of: Mr. John Jackson, Mrs. Katherine Kane, and Mrs. Mary Minot.

The Trustees acknowledge with grateful thanks the untiring efforts and loyalty of the staff under the efficient leadership of the matron, Mrs. John Jackson.

In the past year there has been an attempt to increase entertainment for the Family, and a fairly successful effort was made toward their social participation.

The entire infirmary has been painted, a new floor laid, a new regulation medicine dispensary, new utility room and a new shower, all added to bring our establishment up to date, and to meet state requirements.

Religious services have been held regularly with interpreters when necessary, and every month captioned films for the deaf have been shown.

The new Bell and Howell movie projector presented to the Home by the New England Gallaudet Association is a most welcome gift.

The Trustees are pleased to announce the recent election to the Board of Mr. Harry M. Lowd, III of Salem. Mr. Lowd will be of valuable assistance in coping with the problems and projects of the Board.

It is not only on the dedication and ability of the Trustees that the successful running of the Home has depended these many years, but also on the concern and generosity of our many friends, and to them and to the late Helen Keller, former Trustee, with gratitude we respectfully dedicate this sixty-seventh report.

## Notable Events and Celebrations

- |             |   |            |  |
|-------------|---|------------|--|
| MARCH<br>26 | Easter dinner was the gift of Mrs. Ralph C. Browne, trustee, in memory of Mr. Browne.   | AUG.<br>27 | The Boston chapter of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf held their annual outing at Riverbank.  |
| APRIL<br>19 | The Family was entertained on Patriot's Day by the ladies of St. Andrew's Silent Mission, Brookline.  | OCT.<br>12 | Ladies from St. Andrew's Mission entertained the Family.   |
| MAY<br>30   | Don flew the flag at half staff, and the graves of former members of the Family were decorated with flowers.  | OCT.<br>31 | The staff served cider and doughnuts to celebrate Hallowe'en.  |
| JUNE<br>9   | The Adjourned annual Corporation and Trustees meetings were held in the chapel, followed by Mrs. Chisholm's annual tea.   | NOV.<br>23 | The traditional Thanksgiving dinner was served with vegetables from Don's garden.  |
| JUNE<br>14  | Flag Day and Mrs. Hussey's birthday were observed with a roast beef dinner, ice cream and strawberry short cake, the gift of Mrs. William Chisholm in memory of her mother. | NOV.<br>25 | A group from the Lutheran Church of the Deaf in West Hartford, Conn. with their pastor, the Rev. Earl Thaler, visited the Home and entertained the Family. |
| JULY<br>4   | The holiday was celebrated with a salmon and peas dinner, the peas from Don's garden.   | DEC.<br>19 | Two classes from the Beverly School for the Deaf, accompanied by their teachers, presented the Christmas story.  |

DEC.  
21

Gene Murray and Danny Ayers and their dance pupils gave the Family an exciting recital in Salem Hall.

DEC.  
24

The annual Christmas Eve party was held around the tree in Salem Hall with Don in his customary role of Santa.

DEC.  
25

A traditional Christmas dinner was served, the gift of Mrs. William Chisholm in memory of Mr. and Mrs. J. Frederick Hussey.

1968

JAN.  
1

A chicken dinner was served for New Year's celebration, the annual gift of Mrs. Max Hess of Boston.

FEB.  
9

The annual Love B. Ingall's memorial birthday dinner was served, and a gift of fruit from Mrs. Chisholm.

FEB.  
22

Mr. Stephen Phillips, President of the Board of Trustees, showed colored slides of a trip to Hawaii.

MARCH  
24

The New England Gallaudet Association of the Deaf presented the Home with a new Bell and Howell movie projector.

Each month Don has shown captioned films for the deaf and each month Catholic and Protestant religious services have been held in the chapel.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

The following clergymen have held services in the chapel or brought religious rites and comfort to the Family:

The Reverend Clinton T. Macy of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Salem.

The Reverend Robert G. Blakely of the Lutheran Mission to the Deaf.

The Reverend Edward Granholm of Pownal, Maine.

The Reverend J. David Welsh of the Catholic Guild for the Deaf of Boston.

Captain Kenneth Slater of St. Andrew's Mission to the Deaf, Brookline.

## ADMISSIONS

Mrs. Lillian Blanchard ..... March 23, 1968

# Report of the Treasurer

## INCOME

Interest and Dividends .....	\$ 59,942.91
Board .....	2,625.00
Donations .....	3,746.05
Old Age Assistance and Disability Aid .....	13,376.34
Social Security .....	8,515.30
Received from Reserve for Repairs and Improvements .....	10,000.00
Miscellaneous .....	218.40
	<hr/>
	\$98,424.00

## INCOME CASH ACCOUNT

Excess of Receipts over payments .....	\$ 1,880.79
Income Cash on Hand March 31, 1967 .....	7,928.42
Income Cash on Hand March 31, 1968 .....	<hr/>
	\$ 9,809.21

## INVESTED FUNDS

General Fund .....	\$719,121.86
J. Fred Hussey Fund .....	35,000.00
Miscellaneous Special Funds .....	47,916.93
Reserve for Repairs and Improvements .....	84,135.47
Property Account .....	106,457.27
	<hr/>
	\$992,631.53

## DISBURSEMENTS

Accrued Interest .....	\$ 232.50
Amortization .....	859.38
Care of the Grounds .....	845.06
Clothing .....	77.89
Custodian Fee to Bank .....	1,500.00
Farm Expense .....	692.55
Funeral Expense .....	10.00
Gas and Electricity .....	927.27
Heating .....	3,017.53
Household Expense .....	4,975.76
Infirmity, Medicine and Hospital	2,448.90
Insurance .....	1,624.00
Legal and Auditing .....	558.00
Office Expense .....	201.68
Printing and Postage .....	795.80
Provisions and Supplies .....	9,819.02
Repairs and Improvements .....	15,066.46
Salaries and Wages .....	49,918.00
The Spokesman — Publication and Mailing .....	1,595.08
Telephone .....	719.65
Water .....	196.02
Miscellaneous .....	462.66
	<hr/>
	\$96,543.21



Gail talking to Mr. Charles Munroe using braille typewriter.



Mrs. Ruth Cornish.

# Acknowledgments

The New England Home for the Deaf holds in grateful memory the friends who have made bequests or founded memorials that our Home may continue to operate.

The Officers and Trustees wish to thank the donors who have given so generously month by month during the past year.

In addition to money, sometimes sent as memorial gifts, friends have sent clothing, books, flowers, magazines, favors for holidays, fruit, jellies, cookies and candy. To all of these and to the following organizations the Trustees wish to express their thanks for many kindnesses throughout the year:

The Boston Chapter of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, the third grade Sunday School class of Grace Church, Newton, the Hobart-Holten Circle of the First Church, Congregational, Danvers, the Youth Group of the Holy Trinity Methodist Church, Danvers, St. Peter's Church, Salem, the

Lutheran Church, Belmont, Junior Youth Fellowship of the Methodist Church, Danvers, Groups of Scouts — troops from Salem and Danvers, Grace Community Church, Danvers, St. Martha's Guild of the St. Andrew's Mission to the Deaf, Brookline, the Priscilla Guild of Belmont, the Mary-Martha Altar Guild of St. Peter's Church, Beverly and the New England Gallaudet Association of the Deaf.



Our gates at Riverbank stand always open and most of the visitors to the Home sign the Guest Register in the library. During the past year the members of the Family have welcomed relatives and friends from all the New England states and California, Illinois, Ohio, Florida, Hawaii, Tennessee, Michigan and Cape Town, South Africa.

# Historical Statement

During the winter of 1900-1901 several meetings were held in Boston to consider the establishment of a home for aged or infirm deaf mutes. The moving spirit in the enterprise was Rev. S. Stanley Searing, an Episcopal missionary in Boston. Before the winter passed, nine other gentlemen, deeply interested, had been secured to carry out the project. A name was adopted, and a petition presented for the incorporation of the society. On May 13, 1901, the petition was granted and the society was incorporated under Massachusetts Laws.

The New England Home for the Deaf (Aged, Blind or Infirm) thus became the third society in the United States for the care of the aged deaf mute. The earlier homes were established in New York in 1882, and in Ohio in 1896, and each of them limited admissions to its own state. The charter of the New England Home imposed no such limitation.

The trustees of the new society voted to open a home as soon as funds in hand reached \$500, but even before this modest goal was reached, the finding of two unfortunate deaf mutes, sickly and needy, brought immediate action, and they were placed with a deaf mute family at 273 Cambridge Street, in the Allston section of Boston. The next year the society took a lease of the dwelling and employed a matron. The family had increased to five.

In 1905 property was acquired at 112 Fremont Avenue, Everett, Mass., comprising a 15-room dwelling, a stable and an

acre of land, upon a small cash payment and a considerable mortgage. The family was transferred to the new home Oct. 19, 1905. The mortgage was paid on Jan. 2, 1918, largely through the aid of the Ladies' Auxiliary.

At this time the house was already filled, and a waiting list existed. In 1924 a drive for funds to provide greater accommodations was launched, and the sum of \$62,000 was secured. Deaf mutes urged a more convenient location for the home, and as a result the beautiful estate known as Riverbank, at 154 Water Street, Danvers, Mass., (long the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Frederick Hussey), was acquired. This property comprised a dwelling of 32 rooms, three acres of land, a large stone carriage house, all surrounded with gardens and lawns. After necessary alterations the family of 18 was transferred to Riverbank on Oct. 8, 1925, where for the first time the society possessed its own infirmary and accommodations for married couples. The total capacity of the home was increased to 30.

In 1927 the land between the home's property and the Waters River was purchased. A new infirmary, in a separate new building, was erected in 1929.

From 1946 to 1952 several pieces of adjoining land have been deeded and presented to the Home by Mr. and Mrs. J. Frederick Hussey, making a very extensive and fine property to assure the residence an attractive and secure setting.

# Purpose and Principles

Adopted by the Board of Trustees in 1932 as a preamble to the by-laws  
to serve as a guide in the conduct of the New England Home for the Deaf

This society is organized to care for the deaf, and especially for those who are mutes and are in advanced years, also for those who have the added infirmity of blindness, or are otherwise infirm.

The society will maintain a pleasantly-located and well-conducted home for the comfort of such persons as it deems worthy and so circumstanced as to be made happy therein.

Whether a person comes into the home as a boarder or on the payment of an admission fee, the care provided shall be an expression of the strong friendship which it is the pleasure of those responsible for the character of the work of the society to extend to each person in the home.

In considering applications for admission to the home, the trustees will be guided by the principle that where is met the greatest need, there is found the society's greatest opportunity for service; but in applying this principle the society will not provide anything substantial which can well be provided by legal and natural protectors.

The society will encourage those who are in its care to exercise self-help and to be of help to others.

Because the prevailing dread of life in an institution is in many cases due to a multiplicity of rules and regulations, the society requires of residents only such habits of life as are

expected of members of a large family and, therefore, rules of conduct are reduced to a minimum, and give way to co-operation in making life for all in the home wholesome, helpful, cheerful and friendly.

If the society cannot help a deserving applicant it will try to indicate to that person the way to secure the needed assistance.



Donato DeFillipo with new projector.

A new organization, more or less replacing the Ladies' Auxiliary established in 1909, was officially launched on March 26, 1968 with the stated purpose of raising money for the entertainment of the Family at Riverbank. The officers and members of "Friends of the Home" are all affiliated with St. Andrew's Mission to the Deaf, Brookline.

President: Mrs. Claire Samson, 32 Willard St., Waltham.

Treasurer: Mr Chester Heeger, 17 Mansfield St., Allston.



Mrs. Lillian Blanchard, newest member of the family.

## Form of Bequest

I give and bequeath to The New England Home for the Deaf (Aged, Blind or Infirm), a corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the sum of

---

dollars, to be applied to the general uses and purposes of said corporation.



Our new shower stall.

# Charter of Incorporation

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

No. 9079

BE IT KNOWN that whereas Daniel Dulany Addison, H. G. Spooner, John Dixwell, Herbert S. Johnson, Herbert C. Deans, Edwin W. Frisbee, Albert S. Tufts, S. Stanley Searing, Heber Bishop and L. H. Browne have associated themselves THE NEW ENGLAND HOME FOR DEAF MUTES (AGED, BLIND OR INFIRM), for the purpose of providing and maintaining a home for deaf mutes, aged, blind or infirm, and have complied with the provisions of the statutes of this Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the proper officers of said corporation duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations, and recorded in this office:

Now, therefore, I, WILLIAM M. OLIN, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that said Daniel Dulany Addison, H. G. Spooner, John Dixwell, Herbert S. Johnson, Herbert C. Deans, Edwin W. Frisbee, Albert S. Tufts, S. Stanley Searing, Heber Bishop and L. H. Browne, their associates and successors, are legally organized

and established as and are hereby made an existing corporation under the name of THE NEW ENGLAND HOME FOR DEAF MUTES (AGED, BLIND OR INFIRM), with the powers, rights, and privileges, and subject to the limitations, duties, and restrictions which by law appertain thereto.

WITNESS my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the seal of the Commonwealth of  
(SEAL) Massachusetts hereunto affixed this thirteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one.

(Signed) WM. M. OLIN  
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

As of Aug. 5, 1965 after due procedure on the part of the trustees and legal counsel, the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts signed and sealed our legal name as

The New England Home for the Deaf  
(Aged, Blind or Infirm)



the new england home  
for the deaf  
AGED, BLIND OR INFIRM

154 WATER STREET, DANVERS, MASSACHUSETTS 01923